



**WESTERN**  
WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

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Department of Environmental Sciences

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February 26, 2002

Mr. Chuck Phillips  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
16018 Mill Creek Blvd.  
Mill Creek, WA 98012

Dear Mr. Phillips:

I am writing to say how much we appreciate Mr. Dan Penttila's contributions to our work at the Shannon Point Marine Center. For the past several years, he has assisted in both our teaching and research efforts, providing excellent information about local fish species and the work of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

This past week, Mr. Penttila taught a workshop for student participating in the National Science Foundation-funded Minorities in Marine Science Undergraduate Program. He lectured on salmon and forage fish, life histories, food webs and management practices. He then taught a laboratory session where the students were able to get first-hand experience with various life history phases of forage fish. He led them through embryology of herring, anatomy of adult fish and composition of plankton (focusing on the food resources for young fish).

Gaining scientific information is an important part of what we do with students in our program. However, we also want them to understand something about job opportunities and preparation. Mr. Penttila took time to talk with the student about his career, the Department of Fish and Wildlife and his current work. The students came away with a good understanding of the important work being done by your department and what it means to work for a state agency.

Mr. Penttila has always been extremely well prepared for these presentations and has provided an important enrichment activity for our students. He is extremely knowledgeable, approachable and entertaining. We value his participation and appreciate his, and the Department's, contribution to our efforts.

Sincerely,

Brian L. Bingham  
Associate Professor  
Department of Environmental Sciences

Cc: ✓ Jeff Koenings, Director, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Steve Sulkin, Director, Shannon Point Marine Center  
Dan Penttila

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